ADRIFT
BAD TRIP

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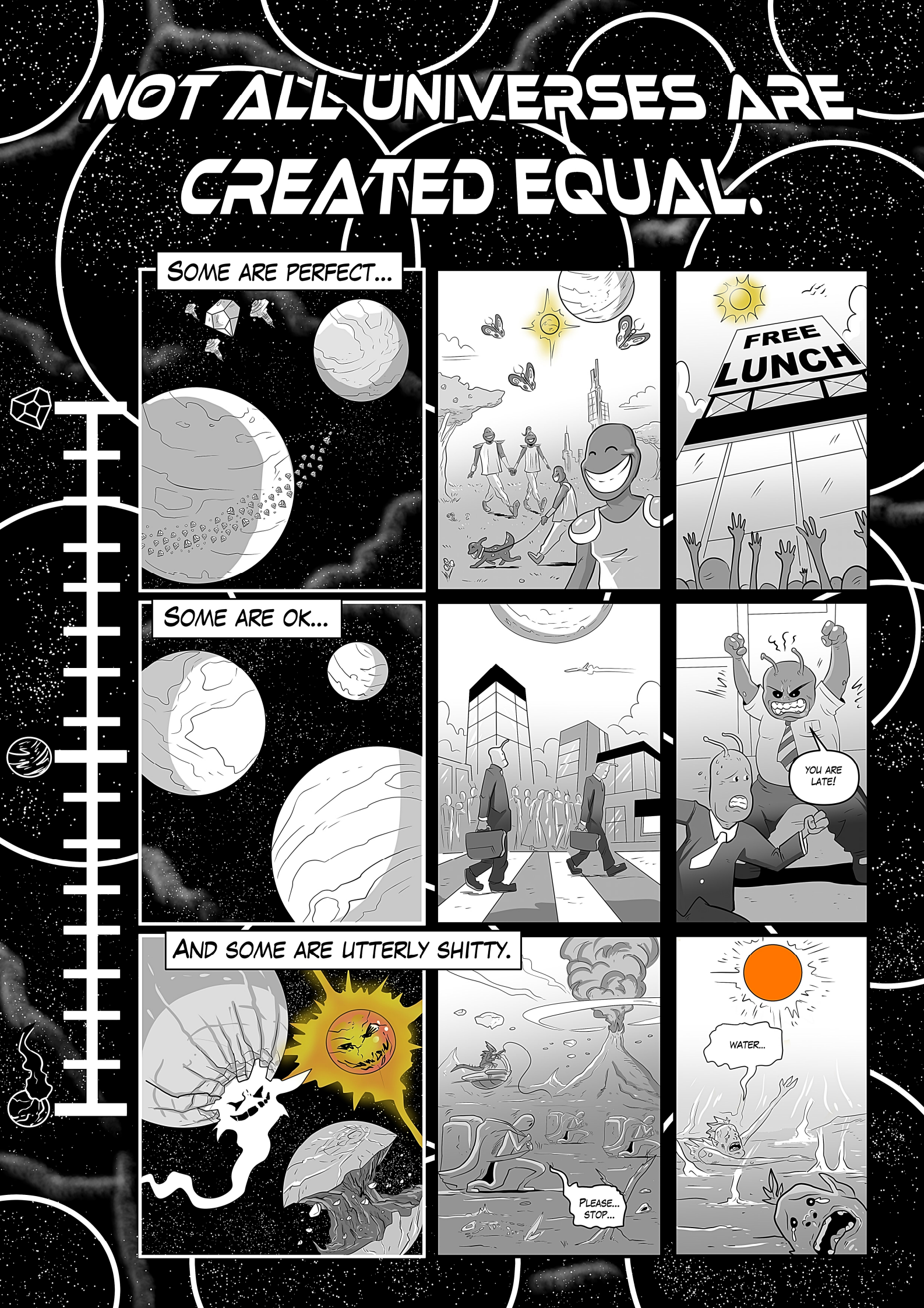
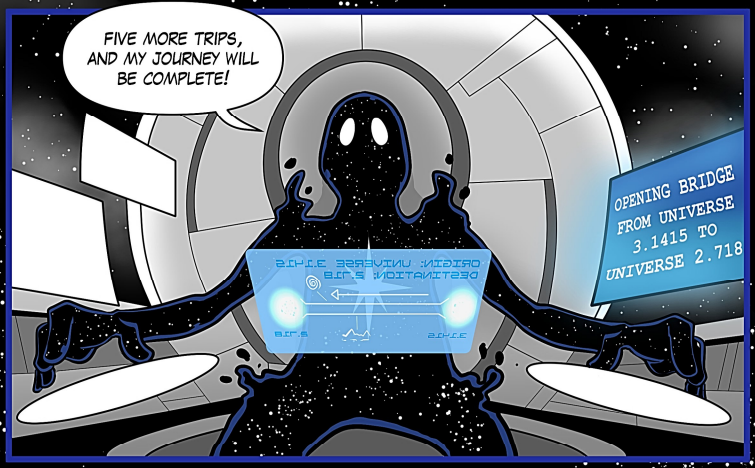
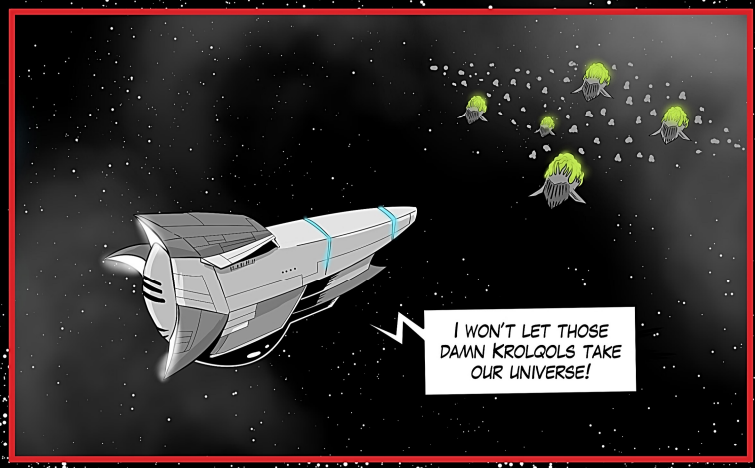
NOT ALL UNIVERSES ARE CREATED EQUAL.

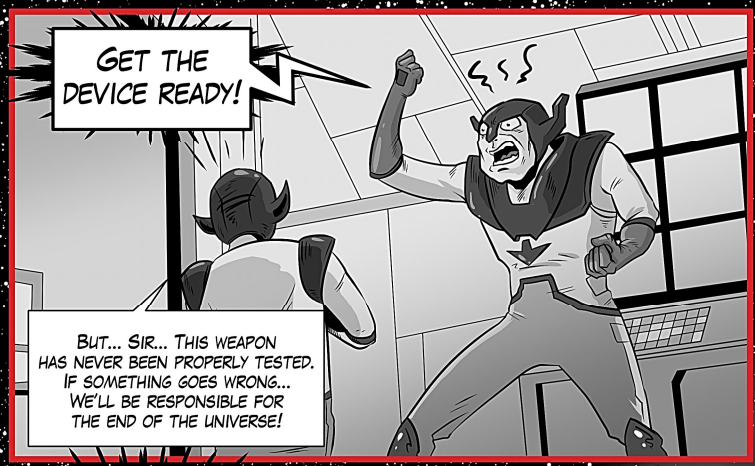


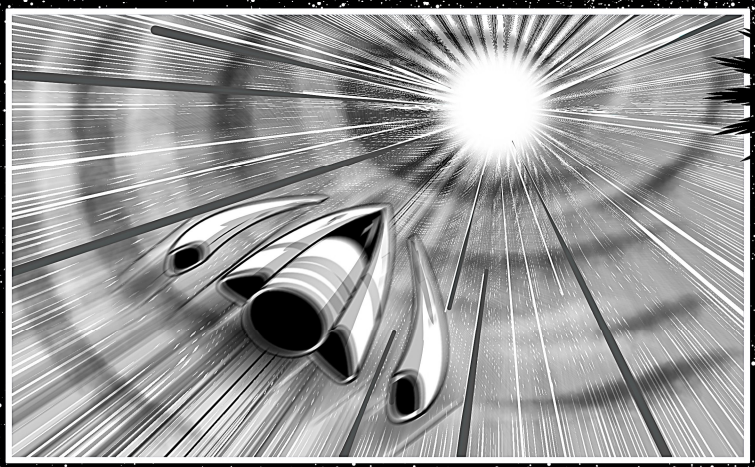
UNIVERSE 3.1415

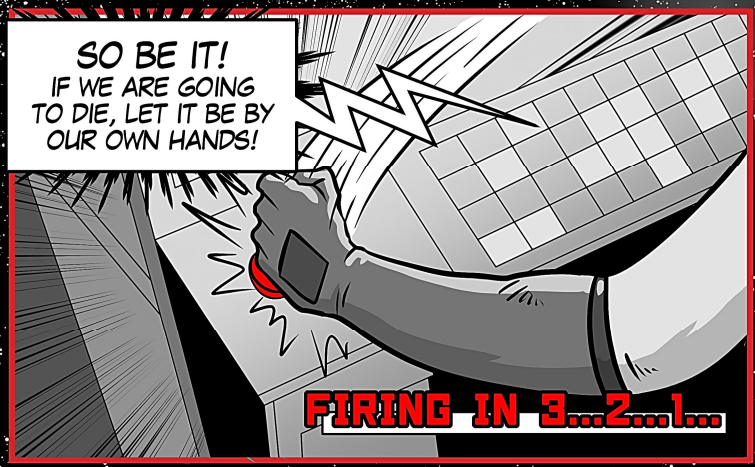
UNIVERSE N/O

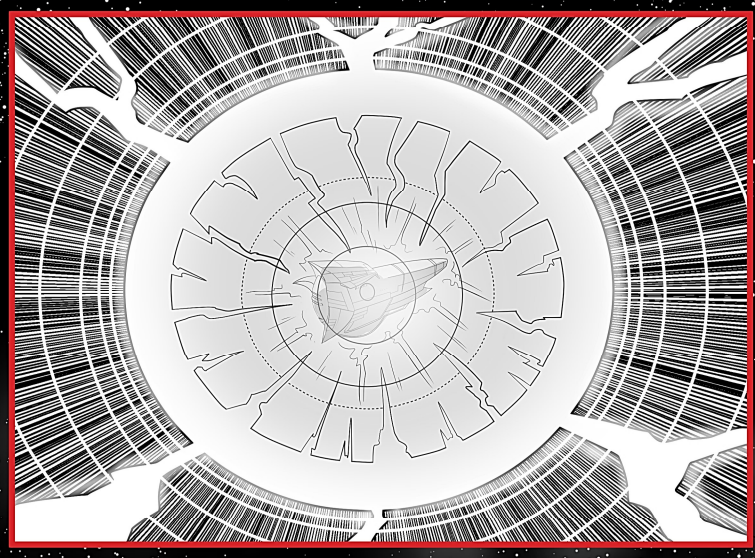


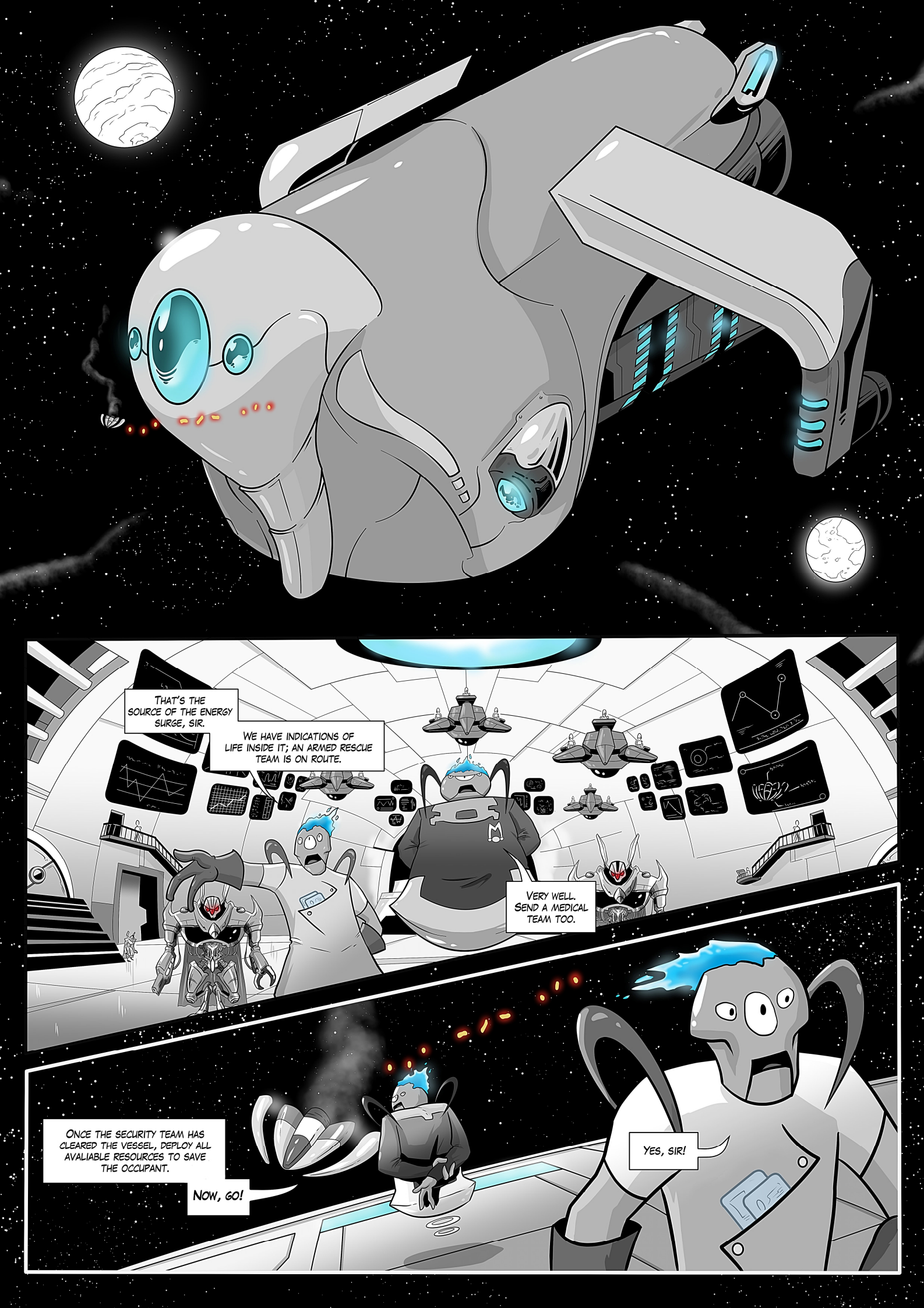


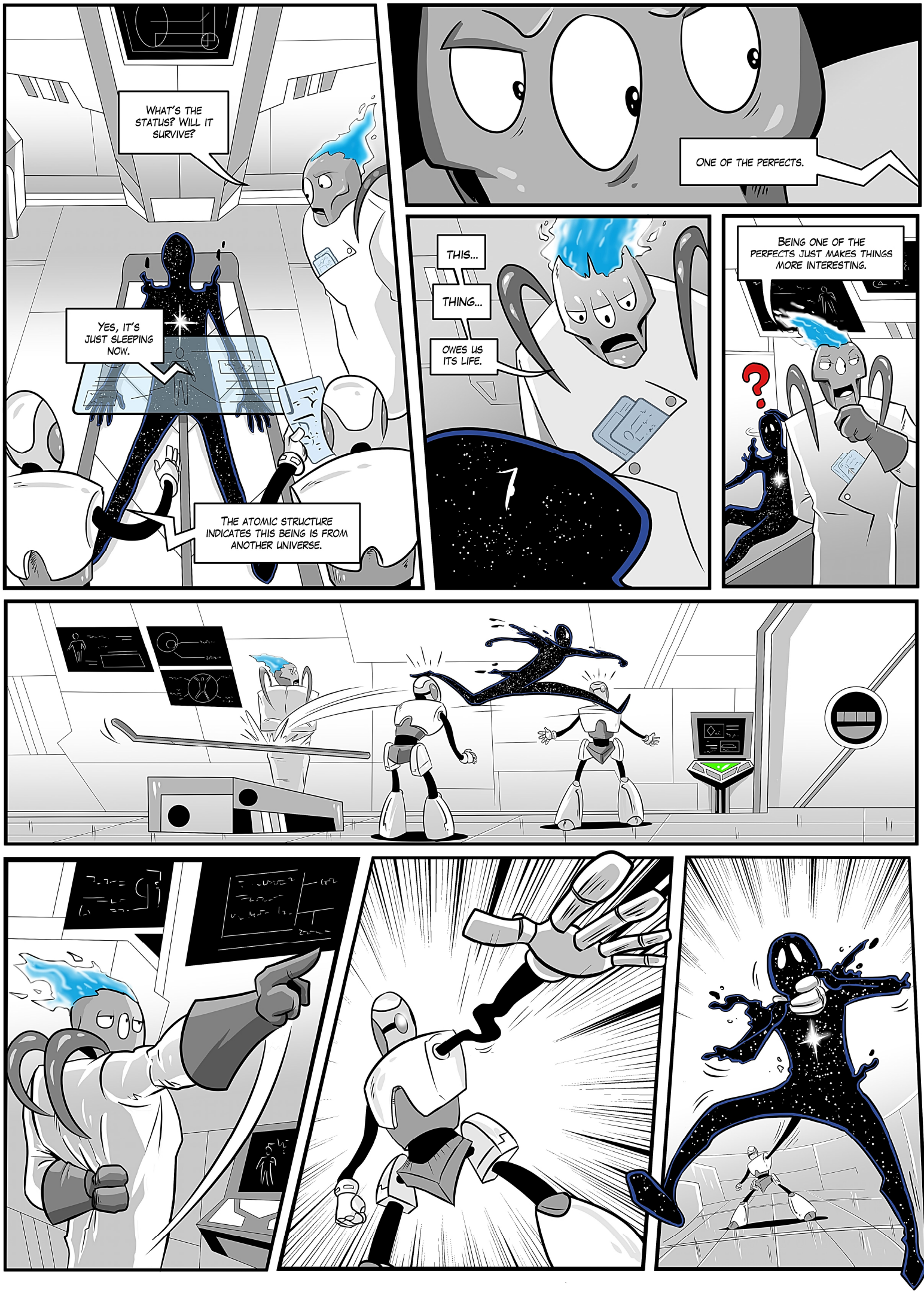


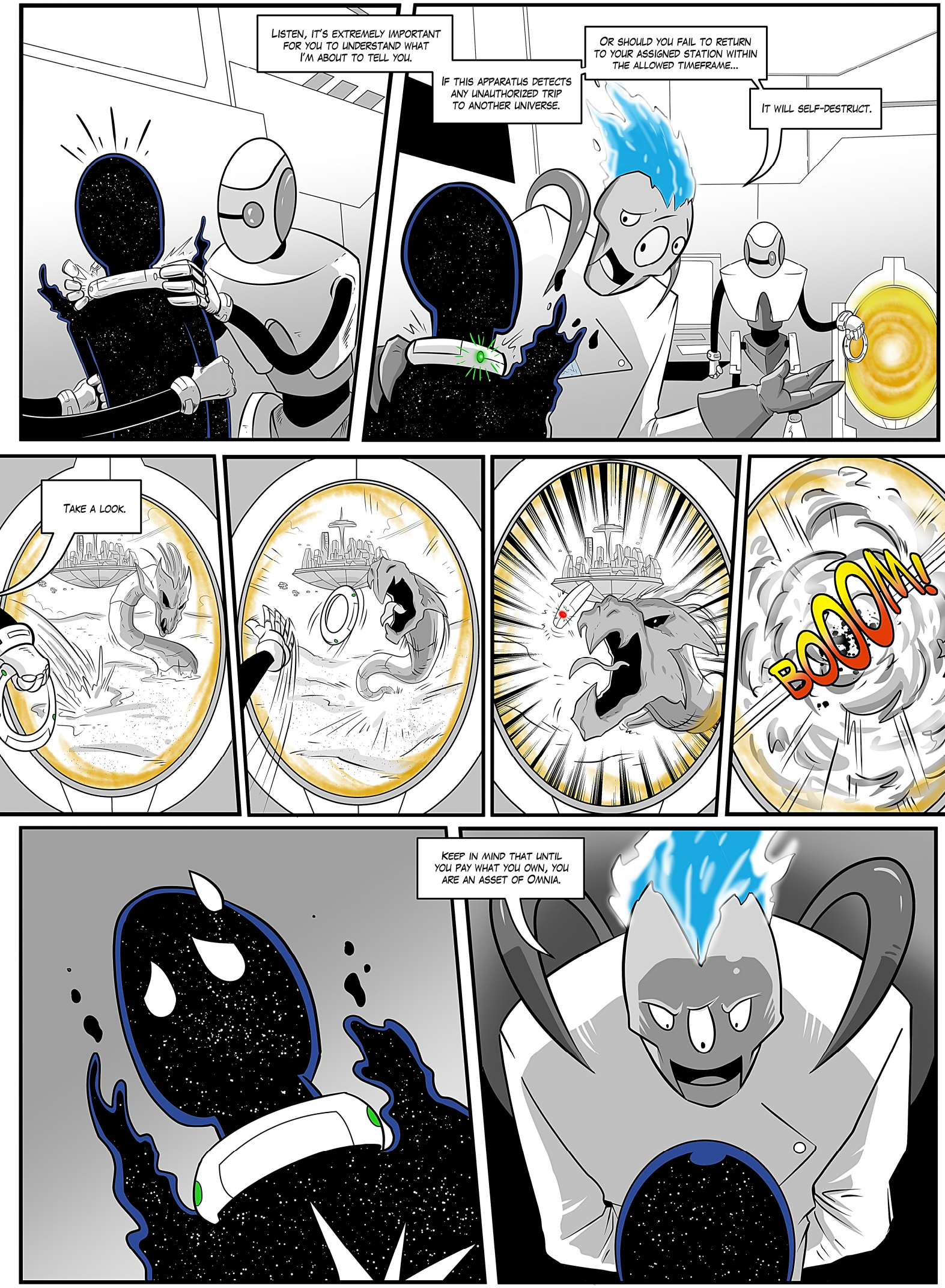


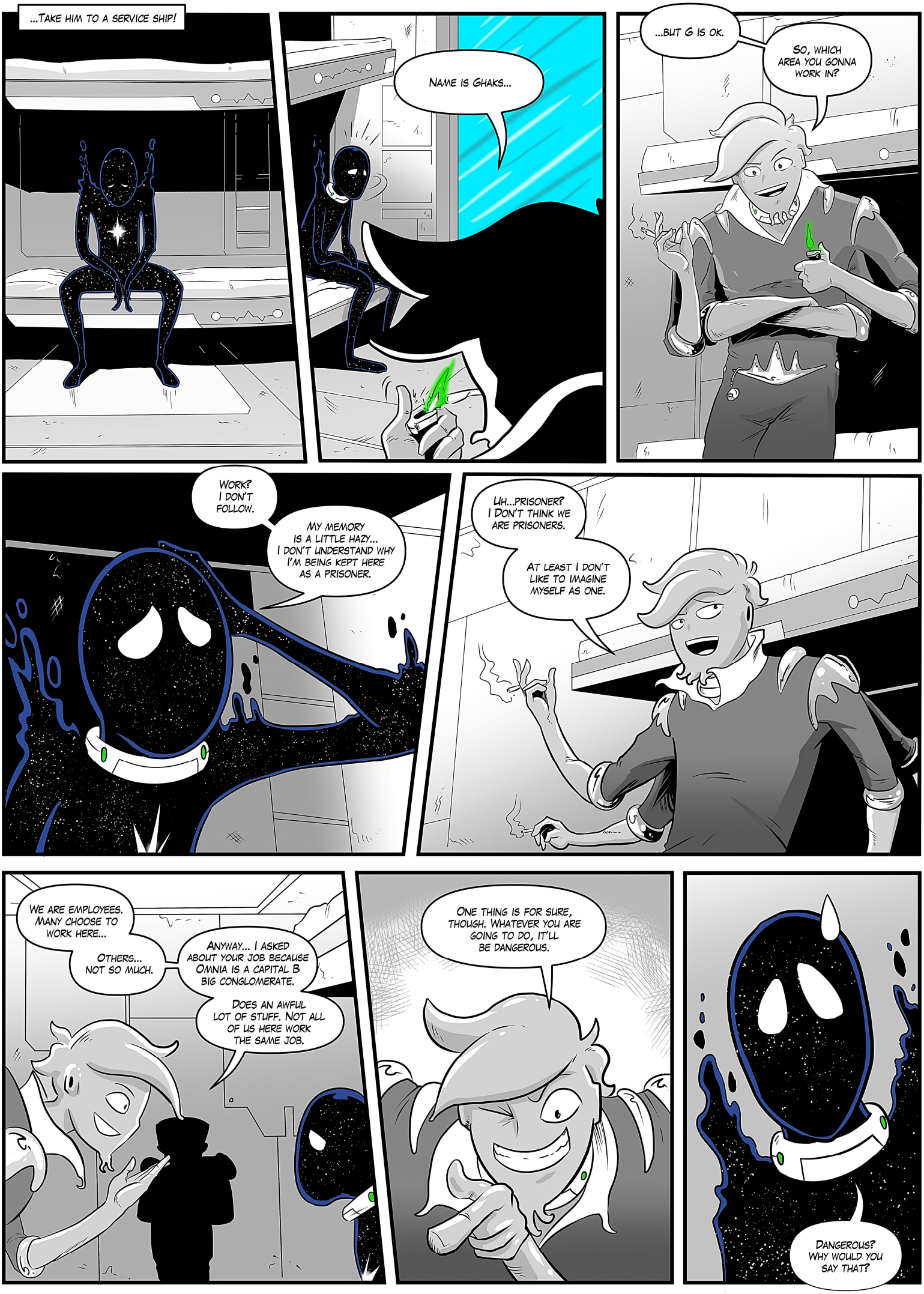


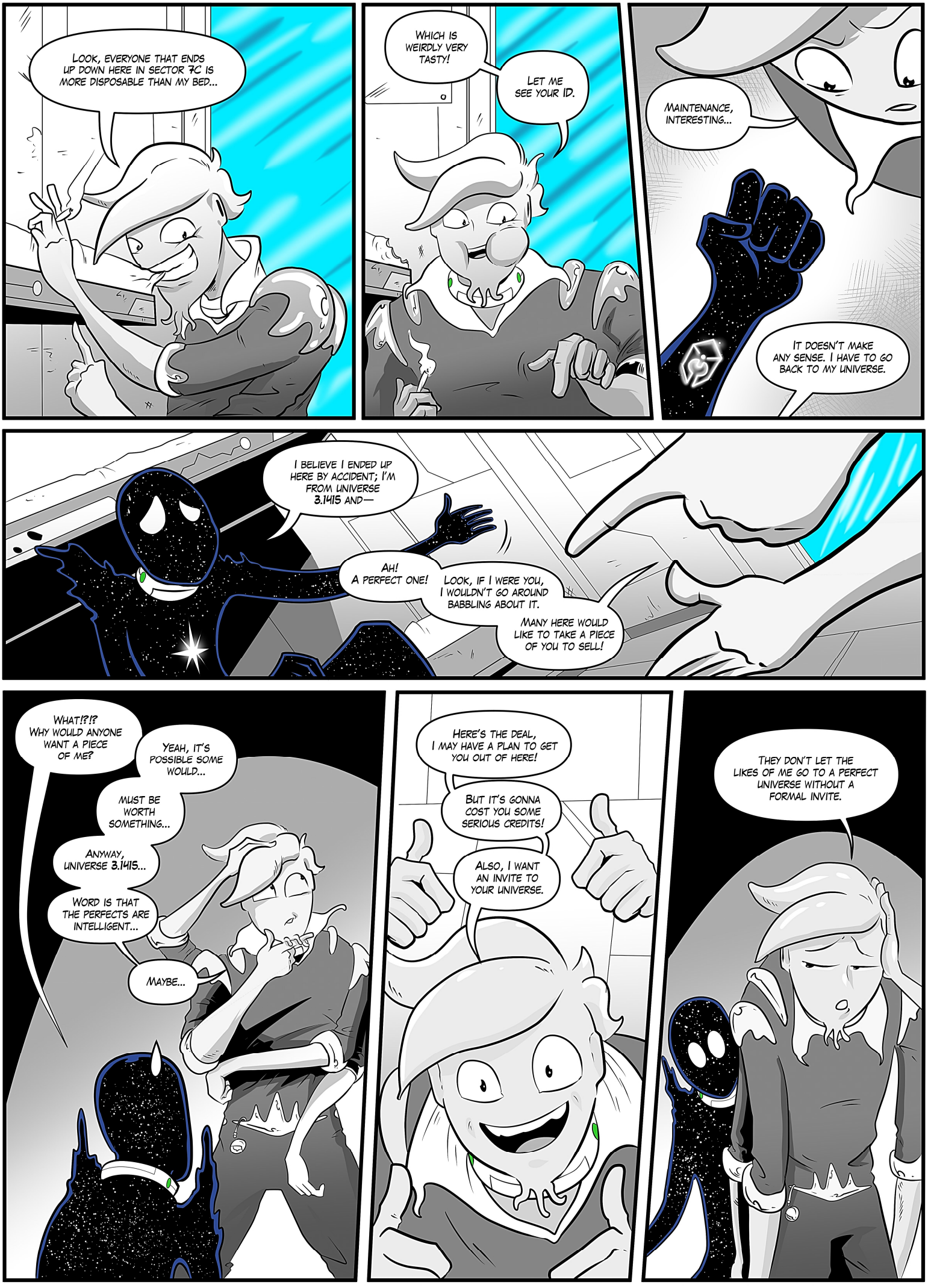



THAT'S THE SOURCE OF THE ENERGY SURGE, SIR.
WE HAVE INDICATIONS OF LIFE INSIDE IT; AN ARMED RESCUE TEAM IS ON ROUTE.
VERY WELL. SEND A MEDICAL TEAM TOO.
ONCE THE SECURITY TEAM HAS CLEARED THE VESSEL, DEPLOY ALL AVALIABLE RESOURCES TO SAVE THE OCCUPANT.
NOW, GO!
YES, SIR!

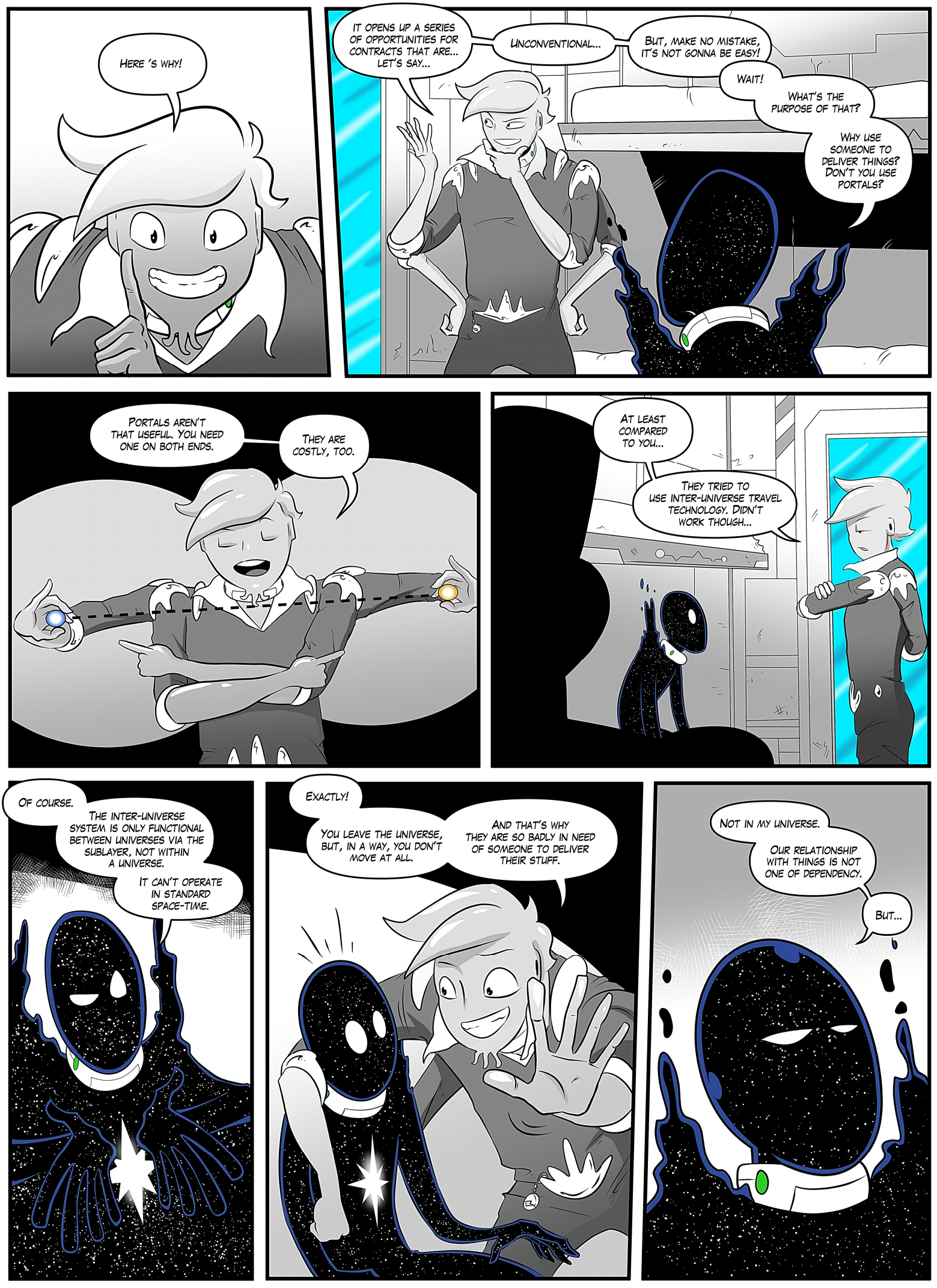

WHAT'S THE STATUS? WILL IT SURVIVE?
YES, IT'S JUST SLEEPING NOW.
THE ATOMIC STRUCTURE INDICATES THIS BEING IS FROM ANOTHER UNIVERSE.
ONE OF THE PERFECTS.
THIS...
THING...
OWES US ITS LIFE.
BEING ONE OF THE PERFECTS JUST MAKES THINGS MORE INTERESTING.
?

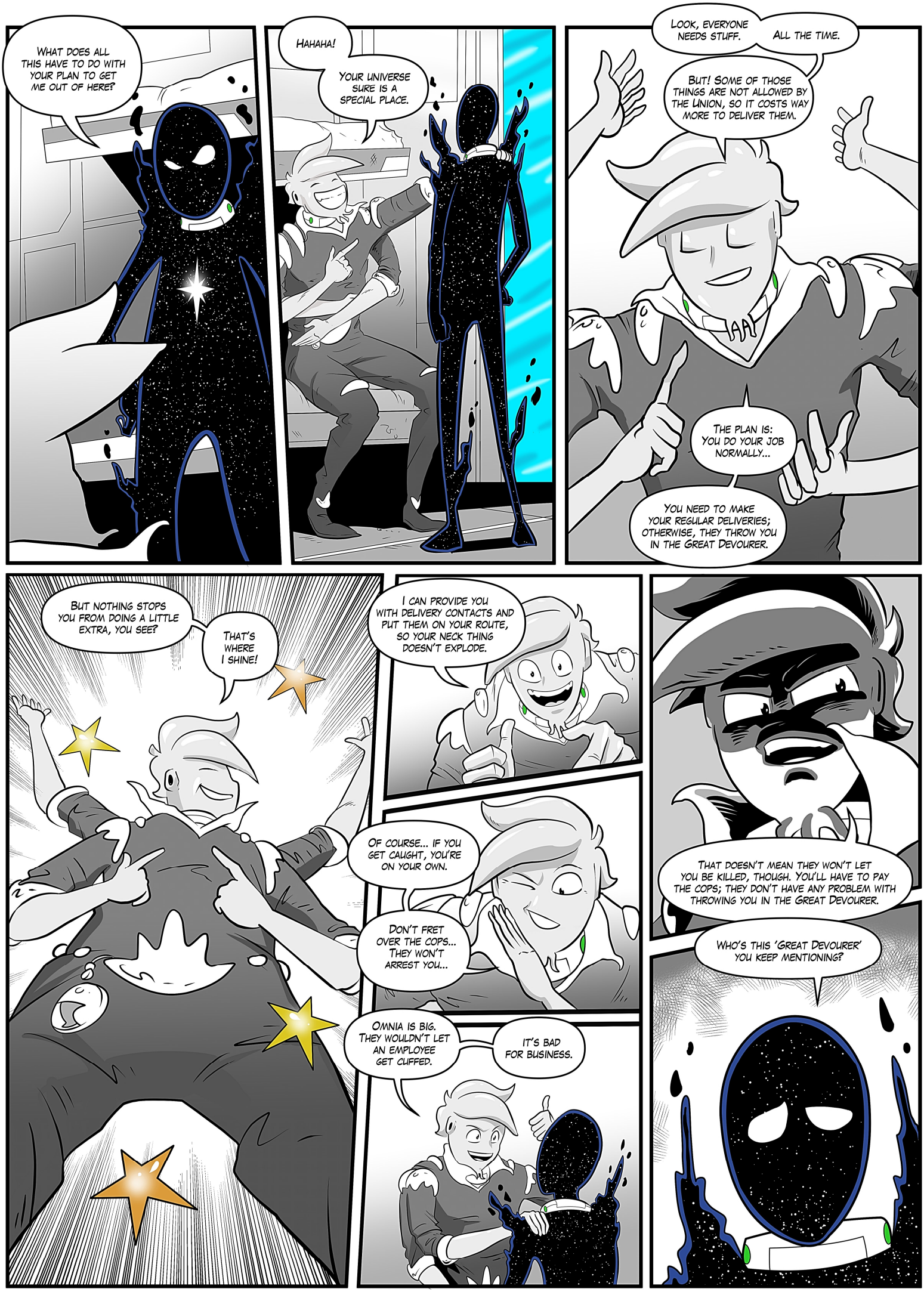

Listen, it's extremely important for you to understand what I'm about to tell you.
If this apparatus detects any unauthorized trip to another universe.
Or should you fail to return to your assigned station within the allowed timeframe...
It will self-destruct.
Take a look.
BOOM!
Keep in mind that until you pay what you own, you are an asset of Omnia.

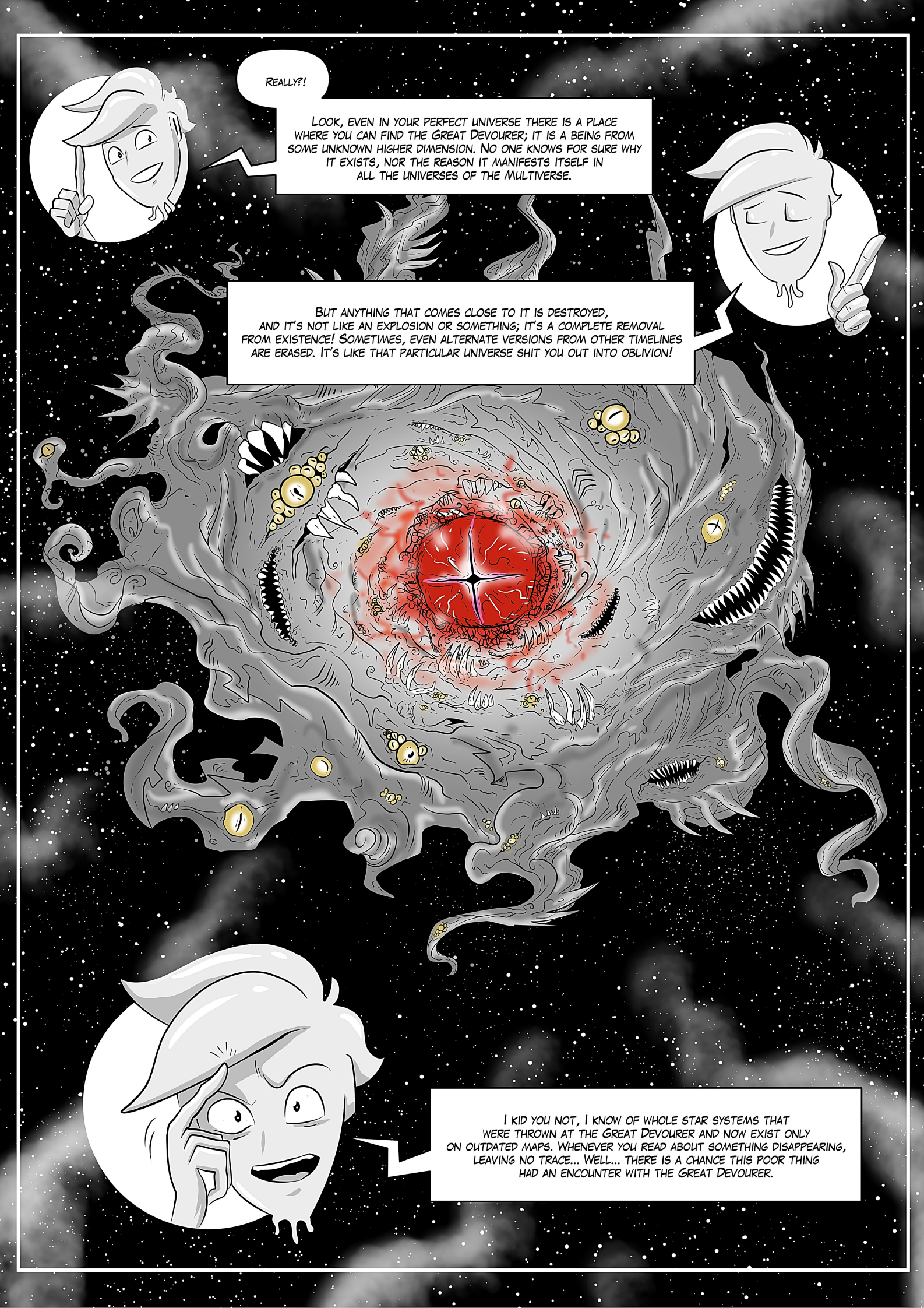

...Take him to a service ship!
Name is Ghaks...
...but G is ok.
So, which area you gonna work in?
Work? I don't follow.
My memory is a little hazy... I don't understand why I'm being kept here as a prisoner.
Uh...prisoner? I don't think we are prisoners.
At least I don't like to imagine myself as one.
We are employees. Many choose to work here...
Others... not so much.
Anyway... I asked about your job because Omnia is a capital B big conglomerate.
Does an awful lot of stuff. Not all of us here work the same job.
One thing is for sure, though. Whatever you are going to do, it'll be dangerous.
Dangerous? Why would you say that?


LOOK, EVERYONE THAT ENDS UP DOWN HERE IN SECTOR 7C IS MORE DISPOSABLE THAN MY BED...
WHICH IS WEIRDLY VERY TASTY!
LET ME SEE YOUR ID.
MAINTENANCE, INTERESTING...
IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. I HAVE TO GO BACK TO MY UNIVERSE.
I BELIEVE I ENDED UP HERE BY ACCIDENT; I'M FROM UNIVERSE 3.1415 AND—
AH! A PERFECT ONE!
LOOK, IF I WERE YOU, I WOULDN'T GO AROUND BABBLING ABOUT IT.
MANY HERE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A PIECE OF YOU TO SELL!
WHAT!?!? WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT A PIECE OF ME?
YEAH, IT'S POSSIBLE SOME WOULD...
MUST BE WORTH SOMETHING...
ANYWAY, UNIVERSE 3.1415...
WORD IS THAT THE PERFECTS ARE INTELLIGENT...
MAYBE...
HERE'S THE DEAL, I MAY HAVE A PLAN TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE!
BUT IT'S GONNA COST YOU SOME SERIOUS CREDITS!
ALSO, I WANT AN INVITE TO YOUR UNIVERSE.
THEY DON'T LET THE LIKES OF ME GO TO A PERFECT UNIVERSE WITHOUT A FORMAL INVITE.

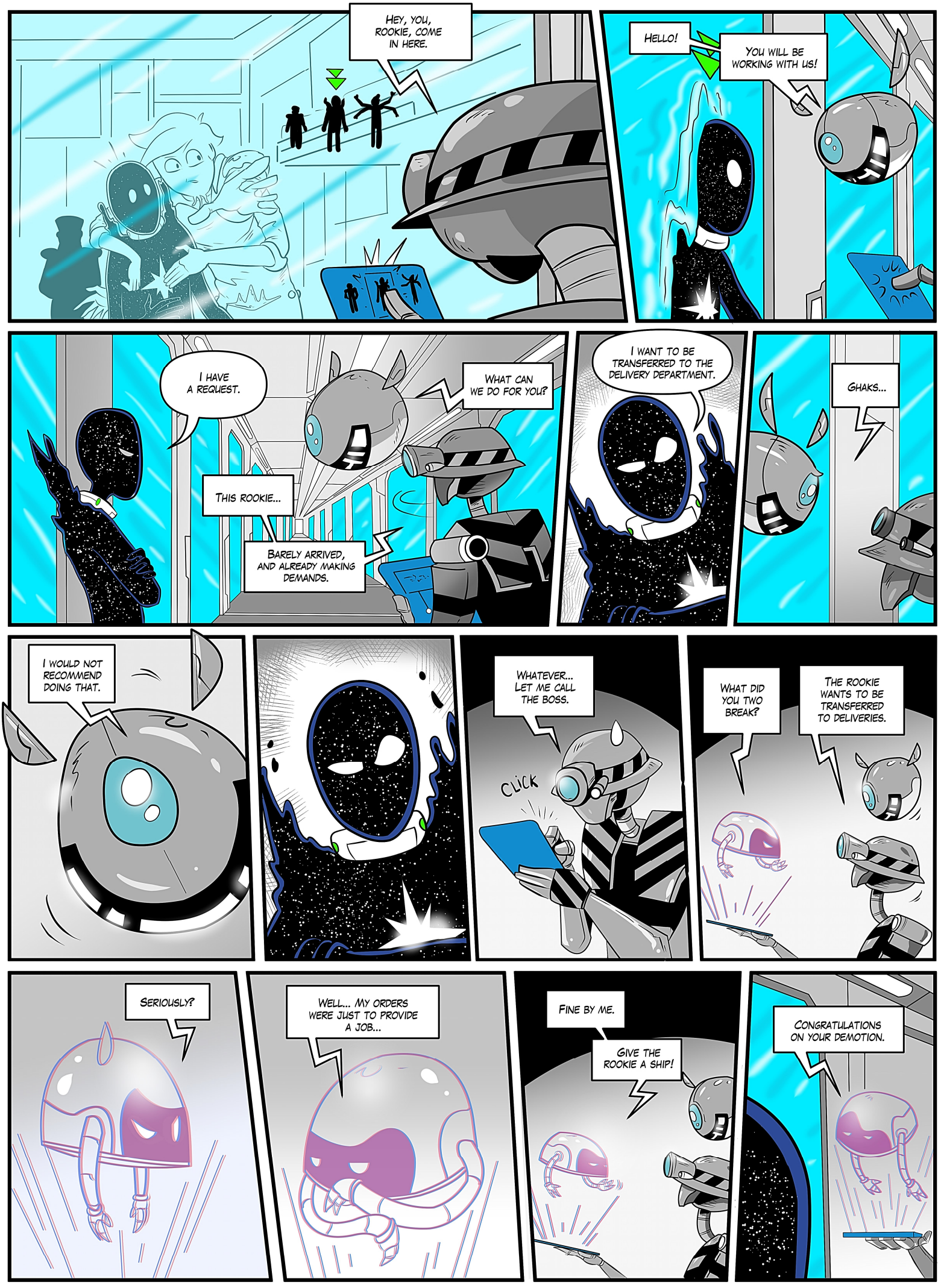
Does your plan include a way to pass through that force field?
Uhm!?
You said we are not prisoners...
I might not understand this universe, but I know when I'm being held against my will...
Isn't that a good definition for being a prisoner?
Ahhh, you mean... THIS cell?
Don't worry, you just arrived. It's protocol.
Have you just arrived?
Err... me...
Well, I may or may not be under investigation for abandoning company property, valued in the billions of credits.
Can't really talk about it.
But what I CAN talk about is that said property was under attack by a horde of Eihleals.
And a maxim that I live by is 'running away from danger is never a bad decision!'
What about...?
I don't know...
Never said a word...
Look, just ask to be transferred to the delivery department, ok?
Right...

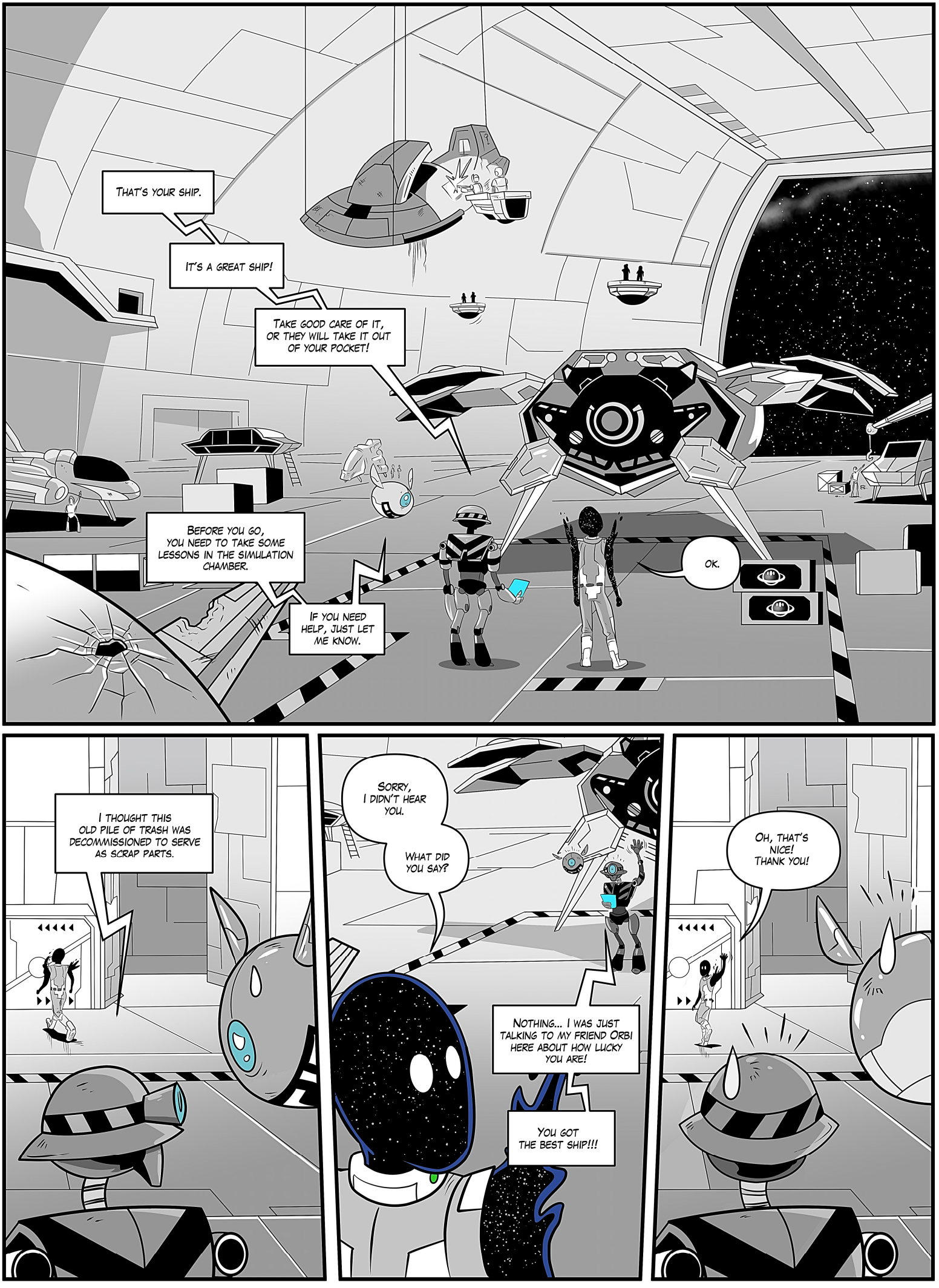

HERE 'S WHY!
IT OPENS UP A SERIES OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTRACTS THAT ARE... LET'S SAY...
UNCONVENTIONAL...
BUT, MAKE NO MISTAKE, IT'S NOT GONNA BE EASY!
WAIT!
WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF THAT?
WHY USE SOMEONE TO DELIVER THINGS? DON'T YOU USE PORTALS?
PORTALS AREN'T THAT USEFUL. YOU NEED ONE ON BOTH ENDS.
THEY ARE COSTLY, TOO.
AT LEAST COMPARED TO YOU...
THEY TRIED TO USE INTER-UNIVERSE TRAVEL TECHNOLOGY. DIDN'T WORK THOUGH...
OF COURSE.
THE INTER-UNIVERSE SYSTEM IS ONLY FUNCTIONAL BETWEEN UNIVERSES VIA THE SUBLAYER, NOT WITHIN A UNIVERSE.
IT CAN'T OPERATE IN STANDARD SPACE-TIME.
EXACTLY!
YOU LEAVE THE UNIVERSE, BUT, IN A WAY, YOU DON'T MOVE AT ALL.
AND THAT'S WHY THEY ARE SO BADLY IN NEED OF SOMEONE TO DELIVER THEIR STUFF.
NOT IN MY UNIVERSE.
OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THINGS IS NOT ONE OF DEPENDENCY.
BUT...


What does all this have to do with your plan to get me out of here?
Hahaha!
Your universe sure is a special place.
Look, everyone needs stuff.
All the time.
But! Some of those things are not allowed by the Union, so it costs way more to deliver them.
The plan is: You do your job normally...
You need to make your regular deliveries; otherwise, they throw you in the Great Devourer.
But nothing stops you from doing a little extra, you see?
That's where I shine!
I can provide you with delivery contacts and put them on your route, so your neck thing doesn't explode.
Of course... if you get caught, you're on your own.
Don't fret over the cops... They won't arrest you...
Omnia is big. They wouldn't let an employee get cuffed.
It's bad for business.
That doesn't mean they won't let you be killed, though. You'll have to pay the cops; they don't have any problem with throwing you in the Great Devourer.
Who's this 'Great Devourer' you keep mentioning?

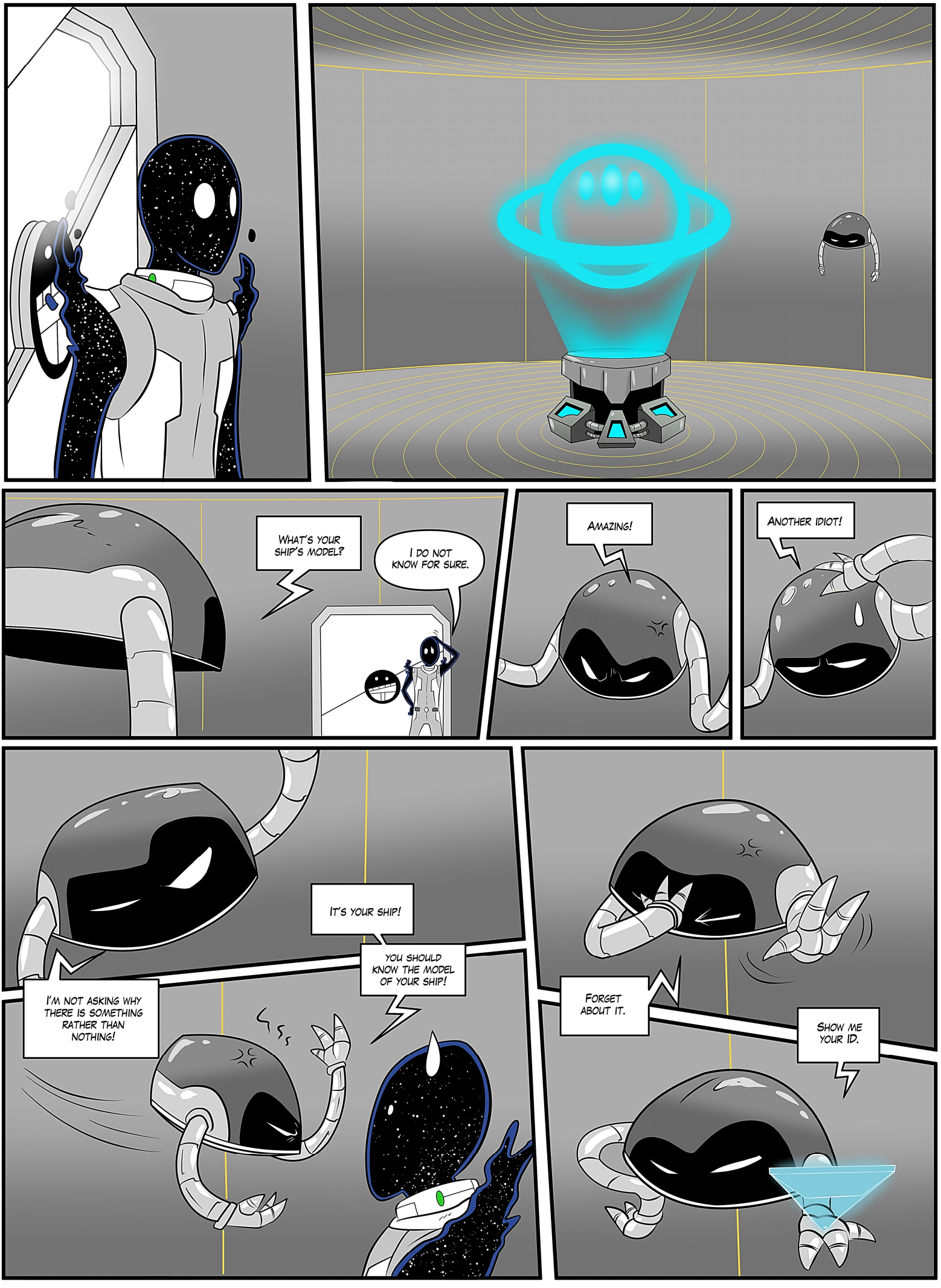

Really?!
Look, even in your perfect universe there is a place where you can find the Great Devourer; it is a being from some unknown higher dimension. No one knows for sure why it exists, nor the reason it manifests itself in all the universes of the Multiverse.
But anything that comes close to it is destroyed, and it's not like an explosion or something; it's a complete removal from existence! Sometimes, even alternate versions from other timelines are erased. It's like that particular universe shit you out into oblivion!
I kid you not, I know of whole star systems that were thrown at the Great Devourer and now exist only on outdated maps. Whenever you read about something disappearing, leaving no trace... Well... there is a chance this poor thing had an encounter with the Great Devourer.

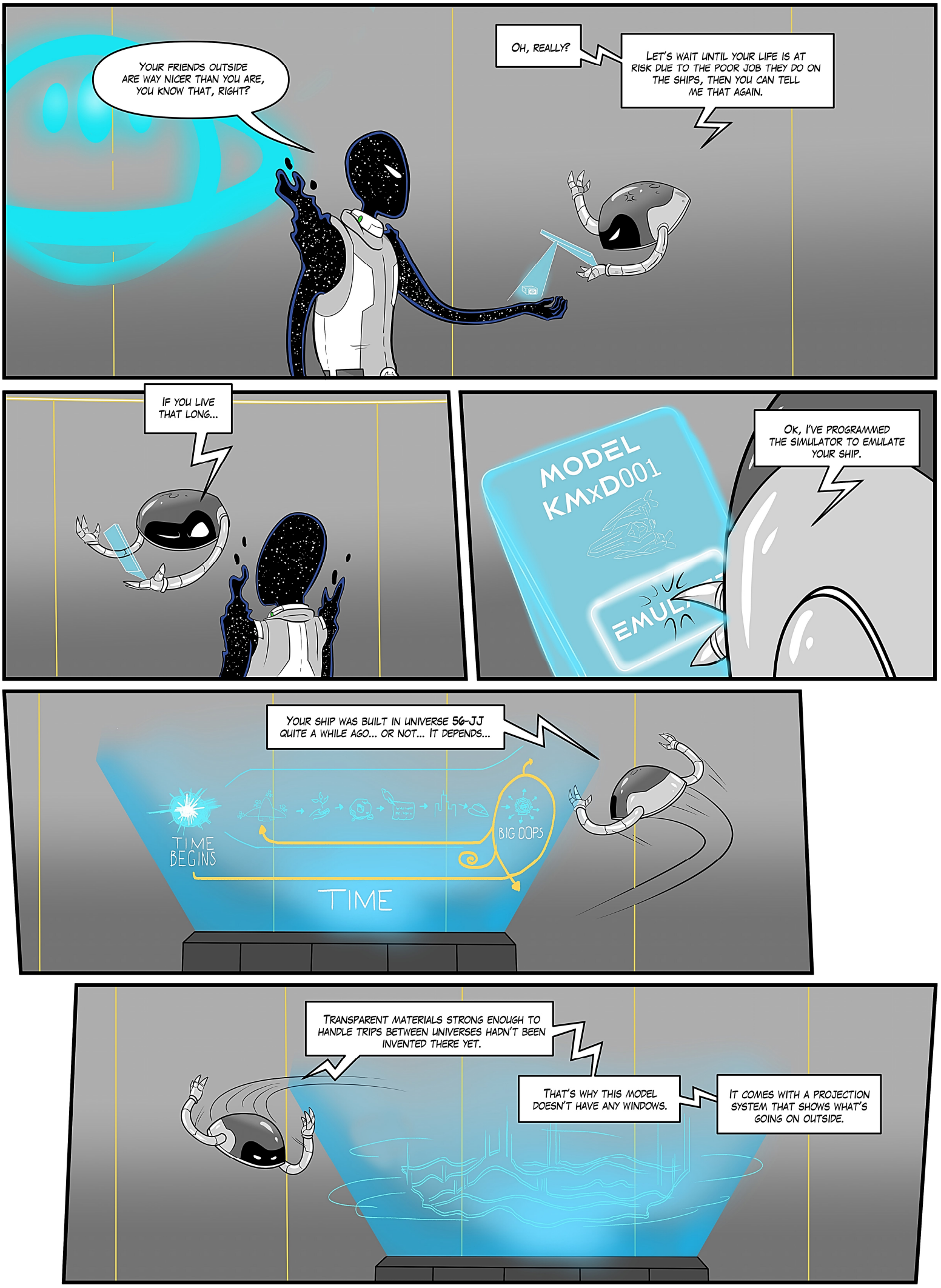
GREAT...
SO, TO RECAP, I MAKE MY REGULAR DELIVERIES AND ALSO TRY TO MAKE YOURS.
I AVOID GETTING CAUGHT BY THE POLICE AND STAY AS FAR AWAY AS POSSIBLE FROM THE GREAT DEVOURER.
RIGHT?
THEN WHAT?
THEN YOU STASH A LOT OF CREDITS TO PAY FOR OUR FREEDOM!
BUT... THERE'S A CATCH...
A CATCH?
ARE YOU SURE YOU HAVE A PLAN?
CHILL...
LOOK, YOU WANT TO GO BACK HOME, DON'T YOU? I SAID IT WOULDN'T BE EASY.
ANYWAY... THE REAL PROBLEM WE FACE IS INTEREST.
THE PRICE KEEPS GOING UP!
WHICH MEANS WE NEED TO MOVE QUICKLY!
LOOK AT THE BRIGHT SIDE: MANY SUCCEEDED IN GETTING FREE!

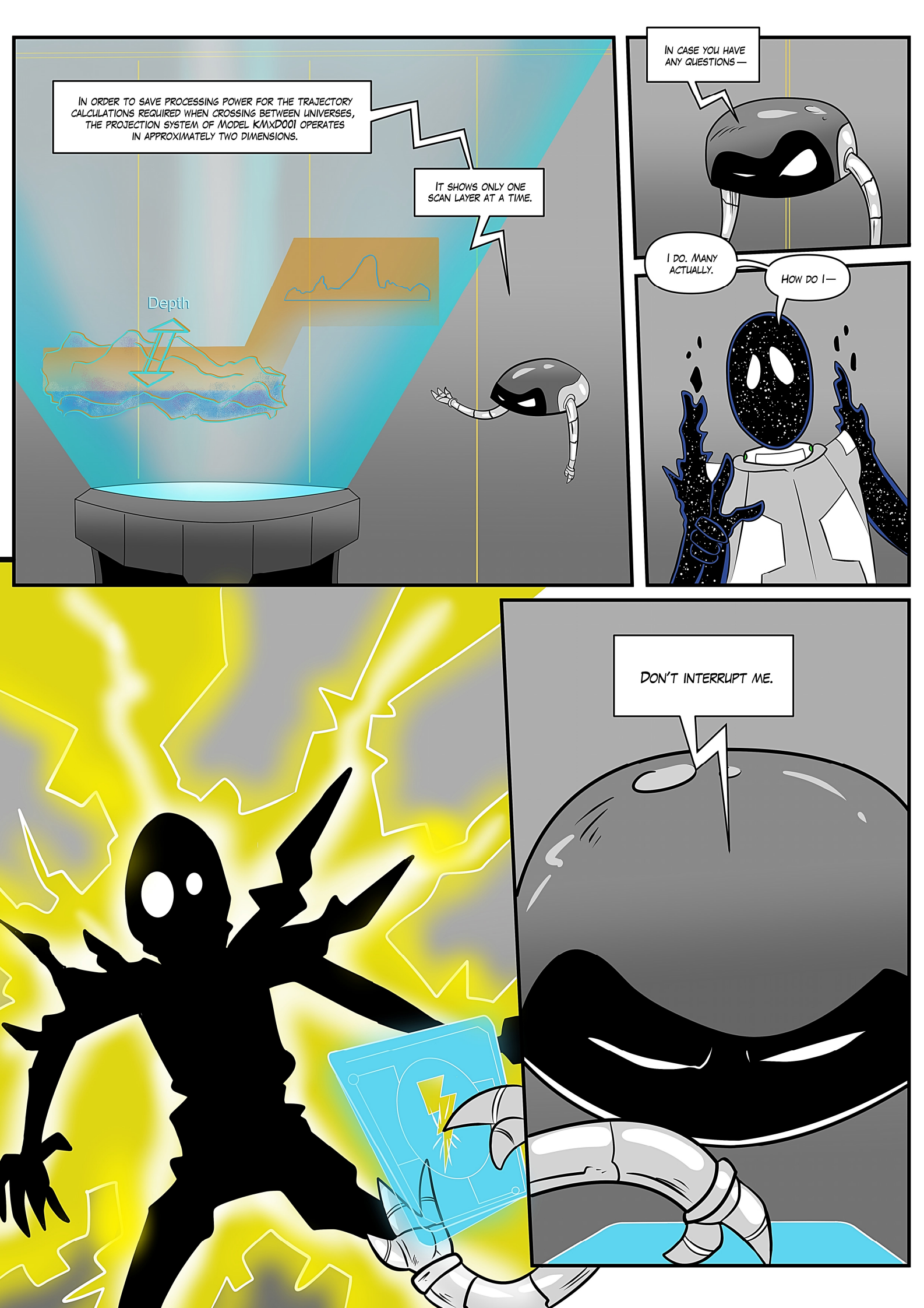

HEY, YOU, ROOKIE, COME IN HERE.
HELLO!
YOU WILL BE WORKING WITH US!
I HAVE A REQUEST.
WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?
THIS ROOKIE...
BARELY ARRIVED, AND ALREADY MAKING DEMANDS.
I WANT TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE DELIVERY DEPARTMENT.
GHAKS...
I WOULD NOT RECOMMEND DOING THAT.
WHATEVER... LET ME CALL THE BOSS.
CLICK
WHAT DID YOU TWO BREAK?
THE ROOKIE WANTS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO DELIVERIES.
SERIOUSLY?
WELL... MY ORDERS WERE JUST TO PROVIDE A JOB...
FINE BY ME.
GIVE THE ROOKIE A SHIP!
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR DEMOTION.

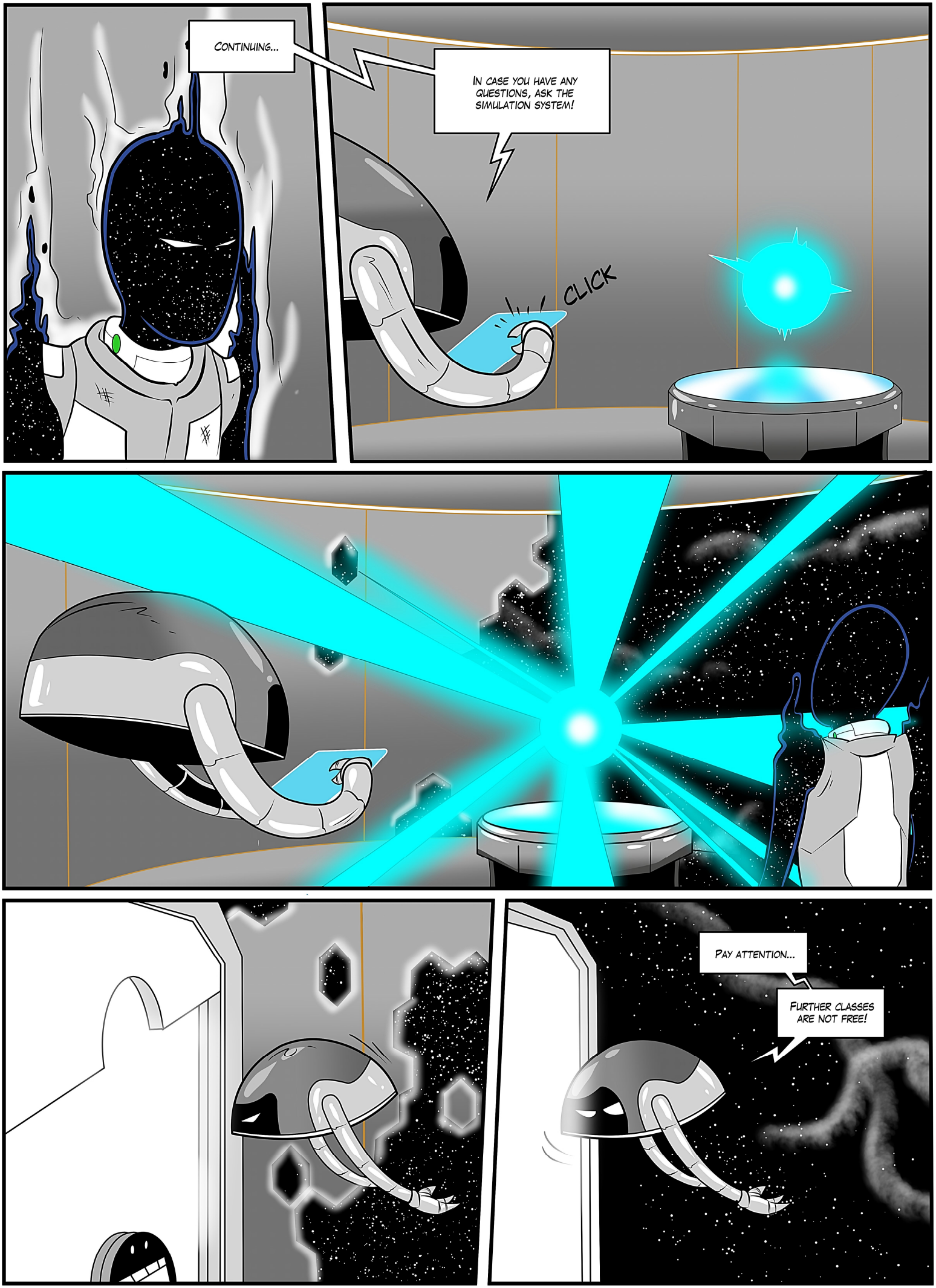
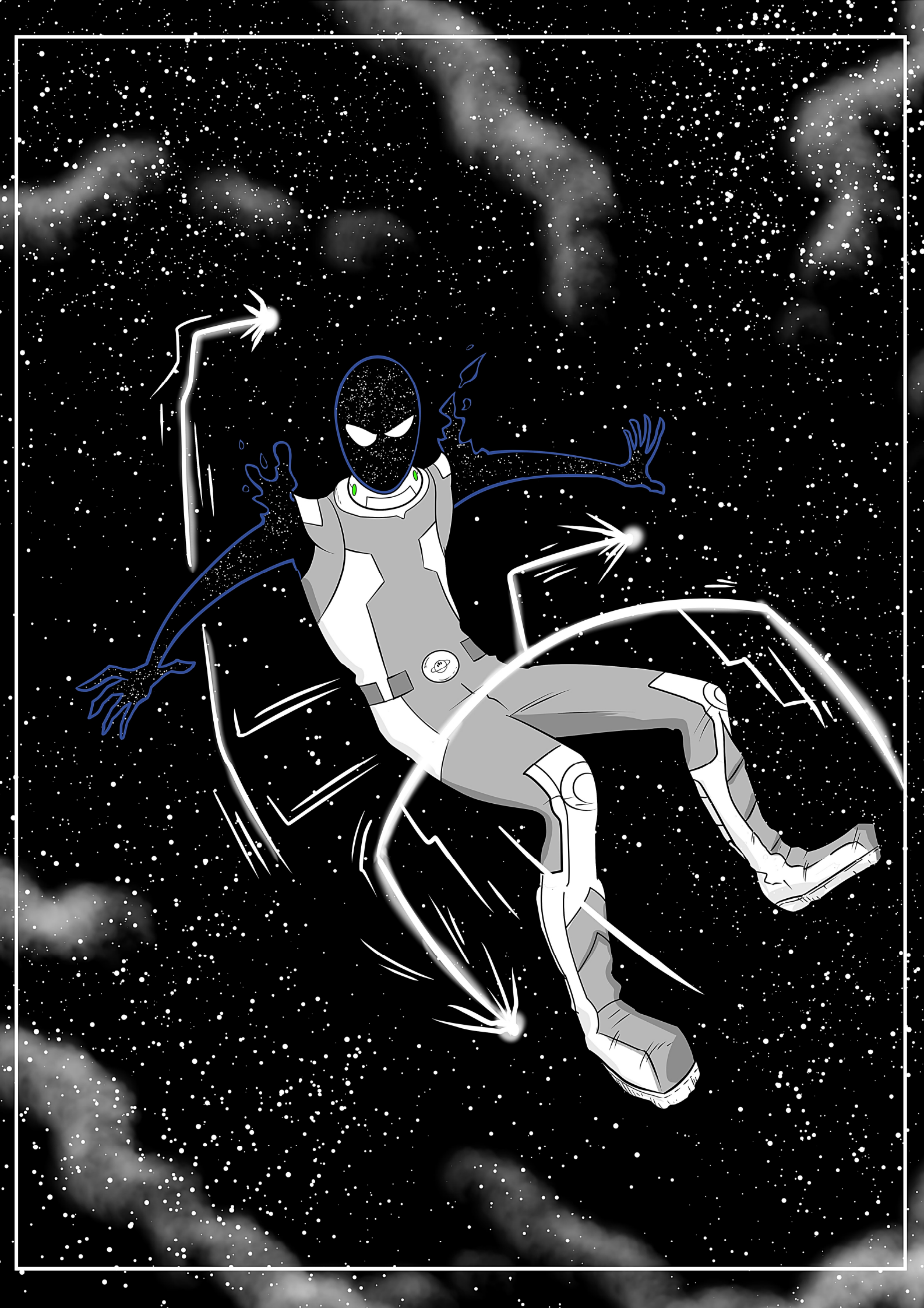
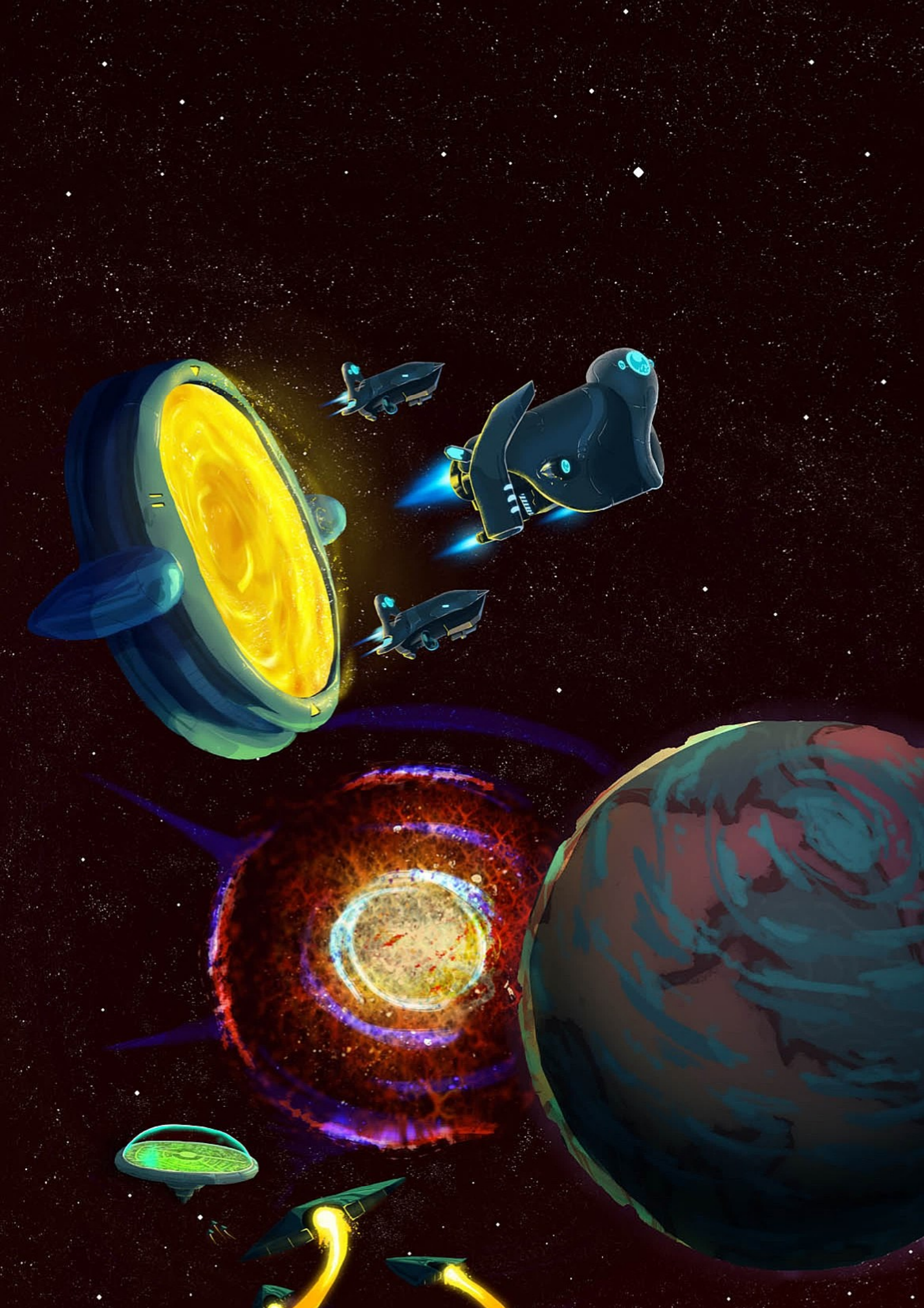

THAT'S YOUR SHIP.
IT'S A GREAT SHIP!
TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT, OR THEY WILL TAKE IT OUT OF YOUR POCKET!
BEFORE YOU GO, YOU NEED TO TAKE SOME LESSONS IN THE SIMULATION CHAMBER.
IF YOU NEED HELP, JUST LET ME KNOW.
OK.
I THOUGHT THIS OLD PILE OF TRASH WAS DECOMMISSIONED TO SERVE AS SCRAP PARTS.
SORRY, I DIDN'T HEAR YOU.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
NOTHING... I WAS JUST TALKING TO MY FRIEND ORBI HERE ABOUT HOW LUCKY YOU ARE!
YOU GOT THE BEST SHIP!!!
OH, THAT'S NICE! THANK YOU!

Poor thing.
Won't last long...
Well, we can at least make the ship look good from the outside...


WHAT'S YOUR SHIP'S MODEL?
I DO NOT KNOW FOR SURE.
AMAZING!
ANOTHER IDIOT!
IT'S YOUR SHIP!
YOU SHOULD KNOW THE MODEL OF YOUR SHIP!
I'M NOT ASKING WHY THERE IS SOMETHING RATHER THAN NOTHING!
FORGET ABOUT IT.
SHOW ME YOUR ID.


YOUR FRIENDS OUTSIDE ARE WAY NICER THAN YOU ARE, YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
OH, REALLY?
LET'S WAIT UNTIL YOUR LIFE IS AT RISK DUE TO THE POOR JOB THEY DO ON THE SHIPS, THEN YOU CAN TELL ME THAT AGAIN.
IF YOU LIVE THAT LONG...
MODEL KMxD001
OK, I'VE PROGRAMMED THE SIMULATOR TO EMULATE YOUR SHIP.
YOUR SHIP WAS BUILT IN UNIVERSE 56-JJ QUITE A WHILE AGO... OR NOT... IT DEPENDS...
TIME BEGINS
BIG OOPS
TIME
TRANSPARENT MATERIALS STRONG ENOUGH TO HANDLE TRIPS BETWEEN UNIVERSES HADN'T BEEN INVENTED THERE YET.
THAT'S WHY THIS MODEL DOESN'T HAVE ANY WINDOWS.
IT COMES WITH A PROJECTION SYSTEM THAT SHOWS WHAT'S GOING ON OUTSIDE.


In order to save processing power for the trajectory calculations required when crossing between universes, the projection system of Model KMxD001 operates in approximately two dimensions.
It shows only one scan layer at a time.
Depth
In case you have any questions—
I do. Many actually.
How do I—
Don't interrupt me.


Continuing...
In case you have any questions, ask the simulation system!
CLICK
Pay attention...
Further classes are not free!